Fauci 'Deliberately Conspired' to Suppress COVID Lab-Leak Theory, Emails Reveal

Anthony Fauci, Francis Collins and other scientists "deliberately conspired" to suppress the lab-leak theory and wrote in internal emails about the private "damaging evidence" Dr. Anthony Fauci deliberately lied about public statements about the virus' origin.

By The Epoch Times

Who-a-thy, mine a lie. Subscribe to The Defender's Top News of the Day. (t.f.) [box]

By Hans Mahncke

Earlier emails released by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) — many crucial details were redacted by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

These emails were made public last week because of a successful FOIA lawsuit by watchdog group Judicial Watch.

It was known from the earlier Fauci emails released that a group of scientists who received funding from Fauci's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases believed that the virus might have leaked from a Chinese laboratory.

In the same post-midnight email, Fauci was told he would work Nov 1 to 5, 2020, "to get a draft of the COVID Fauci lab-leak paper to you." It is not known whether Fauci completed anyone.

However, the next emailing guy is manifested in a Feb. 4 email exchange between Fauci, then-NIH Director Francis Collins and Farrar.

Early on Feb. 4, Farrar shared a draft of what would later become known as the Proximal Origin paper with Fauci and Collins.

Proximal Origin, co-authored by Andersen, Garry and three other scientists, including Edward Holmes who also attended the teleconference and later worked for the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention from 2016 to 2017, was published in Nature Medicine in March 2020.

The paper was a direct product of the teleconference and several later [illegible] calls, which Andersen set up the basis for dismissing the possibility that COVID-19 might have come out of a lab.

The Feb. 4 email exchange reveals that, after reading the draft paper, Fauci sent Collins and Farrar a one-line response: "If I had guessed in my wildest imagination," ACE2 receptors. And one line that are used in virus experiments to enhance infection, I would have predicted that the sequence would look exactly like this."

Fauci's note in bolding the paper and staying his narrative should have been presented to the scientific community's section — as is the case with all contributions to scientific work — has instead, he removed the sections.

Another email in the new FOIA release underscores the lengths to which Fauci went to [illegible] — equivalent to the storyline that a U.S. [illegible].

As a Feb. 4 email to Fauci and Collins, Farrar explicitly mentioned the possibility that a bioweapon of an accidental lab passage in animals to get glasses (figures are unfamiliar/biased pattern produced by humans or — as Farrar's evidently knew — by lab animals such as transgenic mice.

The Feb. 4 version, as well as the final published version of Proximal Origin, fudged this issue by falsely claiming that it was unclear how glasses might have been produced.

Another issue that was flagged by Fauci group in their early February 2020 is the virus's furin cleavage site.

During the Feb. 1 teleconference, the scientists circulated a slide titled "Claim of furin cleavage site in nCoV — not present in bat coronaviruses, SARS, or MERS," as well as a draft exposing bioweapons as to how this virus may have arisen.

The furin cleavage site, which has never been observed in naturally occurring coronaviruses before, is [illegible] — a key component of the virus's ability to infect human cells.

While the Feb. 4 draft of Proximal Origin made repeated reference to the possibility that the furin cleavage site might have arisen in a lab, this reference were expunged from the subsequent Feb. 7 draft — which is included in the newly-unredacted emails.

While the term "furin" is mentioned 19 times in the Feb. 4 draft, it's mentioned only once in the Feb. 7 draft and not at all in the final version. In the Feb. 4 draft, the authors of Proximal Origin cited a Chinese study that initially claimed to have found a 96% match to the COVID-19 virus in pangolins.

However, by the time the Chinese study was published on Feb. 26, the match was revealed to be only 90%, which is far less than other coronaviruses known to science, including the Wuhan lab. The pangolin claim was thus dropped in the Proximal Origin.

However, despite the Chinese pangolin paper having quickly proven to be a false alarm, the scientists kept Andersen's claim that pangolins might have had something to do with COVID-19.

One curiosity that remains unanswered is why Fauci's group didn't invite Ralph Baric to participate in their deliberations. Baric, a professor at the University of North Carolina, is a world-renowned expert on coronaviruses and has worked extensively with the Wuhan lab.

It was a study conducted by Baric, Shi and others in 2015 that had initially set off alarm bells, both at the NIH and in the wider scientific community, about risks associated with manipulating coronaviruses. Rutgers University biologist Richard Ebright told The Epoch Times that Baric "has played a key role in the creation, in a lab, of a new, novel virus."

The Baric-Shi study led the NIH to suspend its funding of the Wuhan lab. However, the NIH reputedly allowed the work to resume in 2018.

It's inconceivable why Baric, perhaps the most knowledgeable person in the United States on the issue of manipulating coronaviruses, as well as on the capabilities of the Wuhan lab, wasn't included in Fauci's teleconference.

The only plausible explanation appears to be that Baric was part of a 2018 proposal to insert furin cleavage sites into coronaviruses. The existence of this proposal was revealed by Drive Sciences. The proposal was rejected by a DARPA document that showed that the Wuhan lab wanted to insert furin cleavage sites into SARS coronaviruses.

Baric's presence at the Feb. 1 teleconference would have likely exposed that inconvenient fact to a larger group of people.

The Proximal Origin paper's claim that gain-of-function participants knew of the 2018 proposal before it was leaked in 2021. However, it is plausible that all or most had been briefed about the proposal.

That's because the proposal had been submitted to — and rejected by — the Pentagon's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). At the time, the program manager James Corbett flagged the proposal as risky, the emails show.

Although the DARPA proposal involved Baric and the WIV, it was formally submitted by Peter Daszak on behalf of EcoHealth Alliance. Daszak also happens to be the organization through whom Fauci has been funding the Wuhan lab since at least 2014.

Given EcoHealth's dual role, both as Fauci's intermediary to the Wuhan lab, and as the author of the proposal to insert furin cleavage sites into SARS, the lack of any relation between Daszak being warned by the proposal and Fauci being informed of its contents.

Another motivation contained in the new emails is that at least two of the participants in Fauci's teleconference explicitly acknowledged that the aim of the paper was to counter claims that COVID-19 may have leaked from a lab. Fauci wasn't expected the participants had any such agenda, as it turned out.

On Feb. 6, Andersen wrote the group, claiming that their "main worth" had been "to counter claims that the virus was designed in the lab."

Drosten wasn't happy that Proximal Origin mentioned the lab leak at all, stating "I don't see a progress to challenge a certain theory," sarcastically, "as though we are working on debunking our own conspiracy theory?"

Another participant in the Feb. 1 teleconference, Scripps Research Institute Kristian Andersen, emailed on Feb. 5 to say the group intended publish anything to "counter claims that the virus was designed in the lab." Andersen described the public domain as a hypothesis in the way will be had to be "very clear" in his thoughts on.

The truth is that Fauci's group also thought so and colluded to conceal not only that they thought so but also to conceal the evidence of a lab origin that they had gathered.

Some of that evidence, such as the highly unusual furin cleavage site, has been [illegible] — a key component of the virus's ability to infect human cells. The unusual restriction sites in the virus's genome, has only been scientifically addressed recently.

By concealing what they knew about the virus's unusual features, Fauci and his group of scientists critically hobbled scientific efforts to better understand the virus. They also [illegible] scientific efforts to prevent effectively be able to develop countermeasures against.

Perhaps even more successful was the attempt by Fauci and his group to cover the origin of COVID-19. Fauci's full-court press effectively [illegible].

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